

6-19-1894

Stephen D. Lee Papers

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Agricultural College, Miss.,
June 19th 1894.

To the Hon Board of Trustees
Miss. A. & M. College.
Gentlemen:-

Feeling that the wages heretofore paid for student labor during the summer months are not commensurate with the work required, we respectfully petition that we, the applicants for employment in the College Departments during the coming vacation, be granted Ten Dollars per month advancement on wages formerly paid; that is, that we be paid Thirty Dollars (\$30⁰⁰) per month.

It may be argued that negro labor can be secured for less than we ask, but we would call attention

Miss. A. M. College
June 19, 1894.

To the Hon
Board of Trustees

Respected friends
of the Board of
Trustees - I am
pleased to see
these gentlemen
have an idea of
the ways of the
Lord can guide
it -

A D Lee
Dean of

to the fact that we are in large part upper classmen-men who have for several years devoted our money, study, and labor toward attaining an industrial education and in becoming conversant with the advanced methods of industry taught at this College. If then, this education is of any value, we ask that our enhanced worth as industrialists be recognized by raising our wages as ~~free~~ laborers above those of ignorant negroes.

While we ask nothing to be granted in the spirit of charity and waived ^{not have} your honorable board grant a single cent more than our intrinsic value, at the same

time, we would state
that we are farmers'
sons and under the
general financial
stringency, we are
reduced to such straight
and conditions in
money matters as to
be largely dependant
upon our own
labor in order to
complete the course
of education at the
College, and we there-
fore ask that you
duly consider this
fact and grant to
us the most liberal
terms that you
may deem just.

Respectfully submitted
W. D. Dimion
W. L. Lead
W. D. Filled
R. W. Burnett.
J. K. Watson.